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PATENT
HRL035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Minden et al.

Serial No.: 09/924,957

Filed: 08/07/2001

For: Single Polarization Fiber Laser

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

NOV 18 2002

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Sir:

Applicants petition for acceptance of the declarations for this application without the signature of Dmitry Starodubov, whose most recent known address is entered into the declaration form. It is 427 Westminster Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90020.

Mr. Starodubov was a conference presenter at HRL Laboratories in 1999, and the invention that is the subject of this application was the result of a discussion between Mr. Starodubov and Mrs. Minden at the conference. At the time, Mr. Starodubov worked for D-Star Technologies under a Mr. Feinberg.

The only method available for contacting Mr. Starodubov was through Mr. Feinberg, who was contacted regarding this patent application by our office in June 2001. No biographical or contact information other than that of Mr. Feinberg (D-Star Technologies was Mr. Feinberg's company) was available. At the time, Mr. Starodubov was on a three month vacation. Mr. Feinberg said to call back after Mr. Starodubov returned. Subsequent phone calls in September revealed that the phone number given by Mr. Feinberg for D-Star Technologies was no longer in service (it simply "clicked" off during each attempt). After several phone call attempts, it was assumed that D-Star Technologies was no longer an ongoing business.

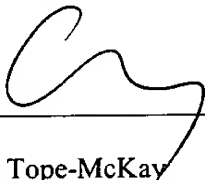
As Mr. Feinberg is a Professor at the University of Southern California, additional attempts have been made to contact him there, with the most recent being on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 30th and 31st of January 2001 and the 1st of February 2001, respectively. No calls were returned.

On Thursday the 30th, a phone number was discovered via an Internet search for Mr. Starodubov in the Los Angeles area. A call to the number revealed that there was no Dmitry at the residence.

Efforts continue to be made in order to contact Mr. Starodubov, as the assignee of this application is very interested in perfecting its rights in this invention. Because of Mr. Starodubov's apparent unavailability for signing the documents, the remaining Applicant, Mrs. Minden, petitions for acceptance of the declaration for this application. Should documents be received from Mr. Starodubov in the future, they will immediately be sent to the USPTO.

In the event the Reviewer wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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